STENOGRAPHIC TRANSCRIPT

P U B L I C H E A R I N G

RE: MEDICAL CENTER URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT AREA

BOOK No. 7.

(Newark City Hall, Thursday, June 22nd, 1967. 7 P. M.)

WINARD & WINARD
24 COMMERCE STREET
NEWARK, N. J. 07102

BEFORE THE CENTRAL PLANNING BOARD
OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, NEWARK, N.J

In the matter of the Public Hearing :
on the Medical Center Urban Renewal :
Project Area. :
- x

MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING BOARD PRESENT:

Mr. Joseph A. Cocuzza, Acting Chairman

Mr. Joseph J. Bradley

Mr. Matthew D'Alessio

Mr. Vincent Corrado

Director Harry G. McDowell

Mr. Aldo Giacchino, Secretary

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THE CHAIRMAN: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. The Chair says a quorum exists and asks the Secretary to, please, call the roll.

(Roll called.)

THE CHAIRMAN: This evening is a continuation of a blight hearing and we have some correspondence and telegrams, and I'll ask our Secretary to please read them.

THE SECRETARY: Mr. Chairman, I have a request from a group of people who have indicated their desire to speak tonight. They sent a telegram to that effect.

Are any of these persons in the room? If they are, they can come up one at a time and speak at the microphone.

Mr. Gerald Greenberg, Mr. Donald Dworkin, Mr. Alonzo Wright, Mr. Virgil Williams, Mr. Adolph Robinson, Miss Mildred Hamilton. No one is here.

We also have a request submitted earlier today by a person who intends to speak.

Is Mr. Walter C. Gaulkin here?

In that event, Mr. Chairman, if you want to call the first speaker who has not spoken from the audience.

THE CHAIRMAN: The blight hearing, which

is a continuation of previous sessions, covers the area bounded by Bergen Street on the west, Norfolk Street on the east, South Orange Avenue on the south and 12th Avenue on the north.

If there is anyone here present that has not spoken, who would like to speak at this time, will you please step forward and give us your name. You have 30 minutes for your presentation.

MR. BROWN: My name is Joseph Brown and I reside at 84 Herald Street in Belleville, New Jersey.

Gentlemen, though I do not live in Newark, I have either lived in or around the City for all of my 20 years. I attended school in Newark for 14 years and when I am not away at school now I spend the greater part of my time in Newark and especially in the Central Ward, in the area which is now in question.

So, therefore, I believe that I do know something about the area. I don't think I would be too presumptuous in saying that I am a little more familiar with the problems in the area than the people in the area.

About this Med School, I'm not going to

quarrel about the Med School being built in Newark or even in the area which we are talking about now. I believe that it would help improve conditions that now exist at City Hospital in Newark. I don't think I have to outline the situation there. I think you are all familiar with it.

But I don't think any of you would allow either yourselves or any members of your family to be hospitalized there.

Well, I have been there. And I have had a first hand chance to see the services and the care or supposed care that they give you there. And, baby, it stinks.

So I think the Med School would help in this way. They couldn't do anything but upgrade conditions that exist in that area, in the hospital. But, gentlemen, are we being realistic when we say we will give them 150 acres? After all, I've seen the map. I've seen the area you have outlined. I do believe that the area you have outlined on the map outside is only the initial land to be handed to the Med School. Am I correct in presuming this?

THE CHAIRMAN: The area is bounded by the

streets that I so outlined. That is the area in question.

MR. BROWN: That is the initial area, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: That is the only area under discussion at this hearing, sir.

MR. BROWN: That 50 acres to be handed to them when they decide to build, when they decide to build, that's the area.

THE CHAIRMAN: That is the area we are speaking about in these sessions.

MR. BROWN: Fine. Gentlemen, this area outlined, supposedly 50 acres; that is a vast area. You can take and build a full fledged university with something to spare on this area that you want to hand over, initially, and then you say you want to give them one -- in the contract you want to give them a contract to have an option for 100 additional acres. It will be quite a school. It will be quite a school.

Now, when the City Fathers decide to request this school be built in Newark, I believe that I am correct -- I may be wrong -- but I believe that the original proposal or the land

that Mayor Addonizio first said he would hand over to the Board, the College Board, was somewhat less than 40 acres and when they refused to accept this land the City Fathers went so far out of their way to agree to -- to assure them that they would get the additional land that when they finally stopped, they are going to find themselves in the midst of one of the bloodiest clashes this country has ever seen.

I'm not advocating violence. Gentlemen, I'm only warning you of a very real danger that each and every one of you seem to be headed for.

You know, throughout this country there is a growing emphasis placed on the youth of the nation and when I speak of the youth I'm referring specifically to those between the ages of, say, 16, in some cases, 15, 14, 13 and 25.

In the black community it is no different. See, we refused to be silent while watching the injustice and inequality that is perpetrated throughout the land.

As a college student I've seen the new breed firsthand and the black students have become outspoken in demanding to have full rights to the entire black community.

For too long our fathers and grandfathers have waited for full citizenship while in the meanwhile they have been forced to live on slum wages and to suffer for second class citizenship.

The situation no longer exists, gentlemen, for we are now willing and we are able to fight and, yes, we are even willing to die for what is ours, for our God-given rights and for our human dignity.

We are no longer ignorant. We know what is happening.

Now, our fathers are seeing to it that we have every opportunity so that our rights will reunite us. They will see that we receive our education, despite the shambles that the education system of Newark and the black community, in general, is in, and they are willing to join us in the struggle and sit by us side by side.

If you give the Med School 50 acres or 150 acres, you are asking for trouble. Let's be sensible about it. Let's take a look at what has gone on in other major cities in the spring. Boston, Tampa, Cincinnati, Nashville,

et cetera. Gentlemen, what will be next? Will it be Newark?

You give the school what they're asking for or what you want to give them and Newark is going to come next and it is going to be worse.

You are very naive in believing that since Newark has been so silent, since no trouble has started in Newark in the past few years, with the riots going on in New York, other areas in this very state, inLos Angeles,in the South, all over the country, but, yes, Newark has sat by quietly.

Baby, it is like the quiet before the storm. When that storm comes it is going to be a big one. It is going to be disastrous. I don't want to see it, gentlemen, but this is what we are asking for.

The black people are sick, tired and angry at the old structure that has suppressed and enslaved them for over 300 years. So you think if it happens, you can turn the National Guards on them, on us, but, gentlemen, when revolt comes and bloodshed will accompany a revolt, will it not be justified?

I don't want you to take my word for it. I want to read you from quotations and passages that have been said and written by other men, by men much greater than I.

First of all, I want to read to you article 14 of the Constitution of the United States of America. The citizens' rights not to be abridged.

"One. All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to jurisdiction thereof are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside."

I wonder if the black man citizens can claim that.

"No state shall make or force any law which will abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor deny any person within its jurisdiction equal protection of the law."

This is taken from Michael Harrington's The Other American.

"The poverty in the United States -- Michael Harrington is white. He says, "If all

the discriminatory laws in the United States were immediately repealed, race would still remain as the most pressing moral and political problem in the nation. Negroes and other minorities are not simply the victims of a series of inequitable statutes. The American economy, the American society, the American unconscious are all racists. If all the laws were framed to provide equal opportunity a majority of the negroes would not be able to take full advantage of the change. There would still be a vast silent and automatic system directed against men and women of color."

He goes on: "To belong to a racial minority is to be poor. It is the expression of the most institutionalized poverty in the United States, the most vicious of vicious circles. In a sense, the negro is tacitly the other American, degraded and frustrated at every turn and not just because of its laws."

This was said by Edmund Burke, one of the political philosophers in the Middle Ages. "Government is a contrivance of human wisdom to provide for human wants. Men have a right that these wants should be provided for by this

wisdom."

And in this case we want this land. We want houses and schools.

John Lock, the man from whom Thomas Jefferson took most of his ideas when he wrote the Declaration [illegible] that, "Power is dealt in trust and it should be dissolved if it is not serving the purpose for which it has been established. Rebellion is justified but only after a long train of abuses, not everyone part of management." We've had a long train of abuses.

Frederick Douglass wrote in 1883, "In a composite nation like ours made up of almost every variety of human family there should be before the law no rich, no poor, no high, no low, no black, no white, but one country, one citizenship. Equal rights and a common destiny for all. A government that cannot or does not protect the humble citizens in the right to life, liberty or the pursuit of happiness should be reformed or overthrown without delay.

Gentlemen, they aren't my words but, gentlemen, a condition which exists throughout this country for the black man are poor. They

have existed for a long, long time. So we say that we don't l[illegible] more and we refuse to [illegible].

I've said before that I'm not a violent person, but if what is mine is denied me, is taken away from me by force, that force being the form of human being or the form of some law or legislation or statute which denies me that right, then I have a right to oppose it, to oppose it and if I cannot do this in a peaceful way then it is my right to forceably oppose it.

So, gentlemen, when we say that or we go around the country you will see riots in the big cities. It is not unjust or because some outsiders have come in and they want to stir up some trouble. No. It is because the people that live there, people in this country, the black community, specifically, they are sick; they want a change; they want to do away with the old system. They want a new one, a more equitable one.

You talk about people such as Stokely Carmichael. You call him a rabble rouser, condemn him, put him down. It is kind of funny how the press -- the other day I picked up the

paper in the morning, the Star Ledger, and the UPI sent out a release saying that he started a riot. In the evening, in the Newark News, the AP said he tried to prevent this riot. A little bit about the press.

But talking about Stokely Carmichael and other black men; they are just dramatizing the mood that now exists within the black community.

I look back to my history books about the time of the United States Revolution and men like Patrick Henry, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson; they were rabble rousers then, too. But look what happened? If it weren't for them, this nation in which I live, in which I am supposedly a citizen, would not exist.

Gentlemen, I don't make vast general statements condemning the white race as a whole, although it, at times, even to me, seems hard to believe. I know that within the white society there are many who are truly concerned about the blight, the black man. But, gentlemen, let's not kid ourselves. It is necessary in the majority of white Americans who are in favor of the suppression and degradation of the black man either by word of mouth or lack of

it because the conditions which now exist wouldn't be here.

Gentlemen, we are talking about the Central Ward. You want to tear down the houses there and build a medical school.

Gentlemen, as I stated at the beginning, I don't live in Newark, although I feel I'm very much a part of it. Sixty per cent of my brothers live here. The population of Newark, that is. But I look up here and, gentlemen, I don't believe that anyone of you live in the Central Ward. I don't believe any of you lived there. You are very concerned about it, about its people. No. I don't, because you want to give them 150 acres. 150 acres of very valuable land.

Well, I just can't see it. I can't see it at all. Because I walk through this area practically every day now and I know very many of the people that live there. I know very many of those who are at school, the younger ones, the older ones, high school.

I know those that have graduated from those schools. It is poor. That's all there is to it. Just poor.

You say you can't build new schools. No place to put the people. Why, hell, you are driving people away. You push them to another area so you can start tricking them, double up the schools, classes, when the teaching already is pretty sad.

Gentlemen, why can't you set aside some of this land for homes and schools? Why don't you take some of this money and help to build homes and schools? Help give the younger generation better education. Find some equitable jobs for those people for all you want to drive them out. You want to tell them to find a new place to live. They don't have the money to move out.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have five more minutes for your presentation, Mr. Brown.

MR. BROWN: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: You're welcome.

MR. BROWN: Gentlemen, why don't you give them a little less than this? I know you already signed the papers and stuff, so I mean, really, in a sense this whole hearing is, you know, just a big farce anyway, isn't it? But why can't you give them a little less?

Another thing. It seems to me very poor

planning to dislocate a vast number of people. I believe in this case it is 22,000. Dislocate a vast number of people without any thinking beforehand, before the fact of where you are going to put them. After you start making plans for this and that, then you say, "We'll find [illegible] place for them."

You found a place to put the Med School. You found a place to put this and put that, to expand St. Michael's Hospital, St. Benedict's Prep School. But, yet, you can't find a place to put the people, the people you are driving away.

You find a place to expand, to build schools and stuff, medical schools. You find a place by driving people away and not finding a place for them.

Gentlemen, when you plan such a thing as urban renewal, why can't you find somewhere in this City a space to build some kind of accommodations?

This is [illegible] around. Why [illegible] residence, for those people that you drive away,

planning to dislocate a vast number of people. I believe in this case it is 22,000. Dislocate a vast number of people without any thinking beforehand, before the fact of where you are going to put them. After you start making plans for this and that, then you say, "We'll fin[illegible] place for them."

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[illegible]

residence, for these people that you drive away.

until you have an opportunity or until you are completed because when you have such a temporary situation you ought to start building, you know, so that it will be temporary and so that these people will have an opportunity, if they choose, to stay somewhere until they can find or until the City provides for them new housing?

I mean something that is guaranteed them. So the City says, "Well, look, we are going to tear down your apartment and I'm sorry but we can't do anything for you."

Well, they can say we will find a place for you and you can stay there until we have -- for all these 22,000 people. I mean building something permanent. Something that would be -- that would accommodate all these people and do it with all due speed. But I do believe that it would be not very costly, considering the money you want to throw away on the Med School or throw around on the Med School. It would prove or would go a great distance to prove your concern.

I doubt you are as concerned as you seem to be. Not very great at all.

Certainly, I know that there are whites

who live in this area, but the area is so overwhelmingly black that I just can't understand why there isn't at least two black men who are very familiar with the area on this Planning board. Kind of hard.

You know, as I said before -- how much time do I have?

THE CHAIRMAN: You may have a couple more minutes.

MR. [illegible] I have 10 minutes for summation, don't I?

THE CHAIRMAN: I didn't hear you.

MR. [illegible]: I have a 10 minute summation, [illegible]

[illegible] To sum up.

[illegible] Ten more minutes.

[illegible] Exactly nine and three-quarters. Go ahead.

MR. [illegible]: You know, this country is amazing. How they step on people when all the want is what belongs to them. When you start hollering about it, when you start fighting for it, you are put down. When you speak out against the system, you are condemned, you are anti-American, you are a communist.

Well, gentlemen, I'm no more a Communist than anyone of you sitting there, though I have no quabble with anyone who feels that this is the system which they prefer.

I have no quabble with anyone except the people who are denying me and my people our rights.

Gentlemen, as I pointed out before, these people are white. They may not be whole white society, but it is a majority.

Gentlemen, for 18 years I attended school. Correct that. For 15 and a half years I have attended school as one of a very very very pathetically few black students within the schools.

No. [illegible] I said I attended school in Newark. I never attended school within the Newark school system. Thank God. For 14 years, which I mentioned, I attended parochial [illegible] St. Rose of Lima. I went to St. Benedict's Prep on High Street. Now I'm a student at Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

In all honesty, though, I cannot say that I have ever felt those who have been against

me because of my color. I can, with all honesty, say that those, most of those whites who I am associated with at times, I had a pretty fair break, but this was only because my father struggled. He was a little luckier than most, I guess. [illegible] most.

You see, he married -- he grew up, was born and lived and raised in Newark, in the Central Ward I'm talking about, but, well, it just happened my great-grandfather on my mother's side happened to a little well off. He had a little white blood mixed in him. So he had a lot of land in Belleville. My mother's family was a rather prominent one in the Town.

My great mother had a home. [illegible] married, my grandmother was very sick. [illegible] took care of her and we lived with her for a while. So for a while I was able to live under kind of a protection away from the streets of [illegible]

[illegible] and I could see that I was just one of a few. Maybe I was, you know, one of those that was being allowed to get by. You know, the white

man is very convincing in that respect, that he allows, you know, a couple of, you know, couple of good niggers to get by, you know, live with them, and pat them on the back and give them a reward now and then for doing a good job. Like what is his name? Mr. Benton this morning. Yes. People like him.

Well, I decided this wasn't what I wanted.

On the campus in New Brunswick it is pathetic. A State University. Right here in the City of Newark. Two hundred thousand black men and women and children living in the City of Newark, which is in the State of New Jersey, and then in New Brunswick, out of a student body of, say, 5,000, there must be something like, oh, 30, 32 black students. But these black students are very much concerned with what they see, what we see. We are sick, as I said before.

We are not going to sit back and we are not going to wait patiently. We want what is ours now. And if we can't have it peaceably, if you are going to use force, force of manpower, laws which are unjust, laws which I believe the gentleman I read from before, Burke,

[illegible] that here are unjust, then the people have every r[illegible] indeed they have a duty to do something about them.

We have been going to the courts for years now. The courts are too slow for us. The [illegible] handed down a verdict say[illegible] through the courts and through every avenue or channel that is available to you. But you put a case up before the courts and it takes years and years before anything else is settled.

In the meantime you figure you can pacify us, that the thing will all blow over. You are trying to do the same thing here and especially on the school board.

You feel, well, you'll let the thing lay awhile and it is going to be forgotten. Sure, people are poor. We are not a rich people. We don't have the means, financially, politically or otherwise to spend a lot of money, a great deal of time down here. But we are together [illegible]

we are molding together. It was because of you that we couldn't get together. But now we are starting to get together, you see.

THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, Mr. Brown, your time is up, sir.

[illegible] You see, we'll be here whether or not it is the same people all the time. We will be here and we are going to fight this Med School, as I said.

We are going to either fight it here and hope that you will listen to us, public opinion, the opinion of the people.

If not, then there is going to be another means, a more bloody disastrous means.

Thank you, gentlemen.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Brown.

The next speaker is Miss Linda Jordan. Is Miss Linda Jordan here?

MISS JORDAN: My name is Linda Jordan. I live at 154 Dragon Street, Newark.

Gentlemen, my case this evening is simply that you, representing the City of Newark, are not in anywhere being fair -- in any way -- pardon me -- being fair to the people with whom you are

dealing.

The people you wish to move, as checkers on a board, are my people. The majority of them are black people who do not have the means to fight you or your power.

[illegible] ly odd that you can sit so self-satisfied this evening realizing that you have already made plans to move so many people to nowhere. People that have nowhere to go will not be happy. People who are rooted from their homes will not be happy.

It is unfortunate that if your plans are carried through, Newark will, most likely, not be a happy place. I don't think any of you are in the position where someone can come along and move you from your home, from the places you love, and you have nothing to say about it. I don't think any of you realize how it feels to be pushed around until you can't stand it any more.

I don't think any of you realize what it is like to stand before your panel, your committee, and be greeted by faces that don't seem to have any interest imbedded in them, expressions that aren't in the least bit wil-

coming.

The people who have come here tonight care about being pushed around and care about hearing things like the committee has already made its plans. Your homes will come down, anyway, but we are going to try to fight. There is no trial. We are going to fight.

This morning I was here and heard Reverend Benton speak. I believe that's his name. He seems to be in the same situation that you are in. He is getting money for homes he owns and he is not worried in the least. He is not being moved. We are. You are not being moved. We are.

Ironically enough, I, someone who, too, is being moved, graduated last night from high school. I received the Hugh J. Addonizio award for citizenship and you're still trying to move me out of my home.

I cannot cover my head with a medal. I could not sit down on a medal. I'd rather sit in my home than on a curb.

In the beginning I wasn't at all militant but because of the situation we are discussing tonight and the way things have come

about I find th[illegible]

doesn't move you at all. All it does is move my family out of [illegible]ts home.

[illegible] odd that you have no black people on the committee and no answers as to why not. It is very odd that the majority of the people bein[illegible] moved are black and that the[illegible] have no fair representation on your committee. The committee has already decided to move us out.

I'm not quite sure of where any of you live, but if we were in power, perhaps my family and I, we'd have Jordan power in Newark.

[illegible] decided to move you, I wonder, gentlemen, how you would take it.

I think [illegible]at even we would have the courtesy to listen and to handle you with some respect. Not use silence, gentle[illegible]

Nobody, but nobody, treats me like a [illegible] of dust you kick. I am a person. I live. [illegible]

[illegible]

have to get out of my h[illegible]

One h[illegible]

[illegible]ne medical school? Gentlemen, do[illegible]

sense? I don't need 150 acres to live in but

the people you are moving to.

You don't need 150 acres for a school. Your intelligence, your scheming should enable you to use 25 acres of land to build a school that will serve the same purpose.

Moving homes, places of business, churches. You're building no schools. You're not providing homes for all these people, besides the medical school. You're not bettering in any way the school system. You're continually making matters worse.

It is very difficult to understand how some of you can wish so desperately to have these homes torn down, to have the government buy them. A gentleman this morning asked how many of you had in some way ownership as far as some of these slum dwellings are concerned. There was no answer. You promised to give an answer later! I hope you really look into it thoroughly because your answer should jibe with ours. I still find it difficult to stand before you. I don't think you hear me.

Being pushed around is one thing I've experienced and being given the opportunity to be paid off for doing somebody's else's dirty

work is dead. I can tell you how to stand in such positions.

The only thing I can stress again and again is that the black people who have been tossed around, pushed around and moved will not be moved any r

Unfortunately, gentlemen, this may be your last move. If you insist upon continuing to move me out of my home, I think it is about time you did a little moving. I think it is about time you understood what it was like to be pushed, to be stepped on, to be called nigger.

It would also be very lovely to switch places with any of you. Mr. Bradley, Mr. McDowell, and have you stand here and give my position. I'm sure you don't know what it is. I understand yours. I've been under it long enough. I'm sure the gentlemen I'm talking about -- I feel very sick at heart about the fact that you have a trial. People who breathe, people who live, people who love. You find it very easy to step on. Very easy to hurt. [illegible] your head but you don't know what I am talking about.

Mr. Brown, a colleague of mine, explained very beautifully about the black man's society

This is a separation. There isn't as much brotherhood as you think or, I should say, there is as much brotherhood as you would have yourselves think.

It has been proven the facts that you cry out to build out one medical school on 100 acres of land and move people to nowhere. It is proven in the fact that Newark has a school system that isn't fit for much. It is proven in the facts that 70 per cent of the people who attend these schools are black. These people are black and are not getting an education and are not progressing. We are black.

If we received anything from our education in the Newark school system it is because we had to dig mighty darn deep, because we had to go out and find things, some of us, find things that you didn't offer and you should have.

We have school systems that graduate people who go to dollar and a quarter jobs in dollar and a quarter -- I couldn't find a job for $1.40. I'm going to college in the fall. I've been lucky.

The white man is paying for my education because he thinks he has another puppet. No, he

doesn't.

As a [illegible] a young woman who Newark is trying to push around along with quite a few other people. He has a woman who is not coming [illegible] a Linda who is n[illegible] from which she c[illegible] for the people she left.

I thank the Mayor for my medal. I shall wear it proudly, but it will not house my family nor clothe them, nor educate them.

Some day they may take it away, but my name is engraved on the back. It is all mine. My home is going to be taken away, though, unless you, as a committee, can understand that you don't push people around and expect them to lie down like little dogs, cocker spaniels with the big eyes, and take it.

I've big eyes but I'm not a cocker [illegible] I'm happy that the guards have changed. I think my fellow black man was getting rather uneasy.

It is very difficult to have a black ma[illegible] make sure that another black man doesn't get out of hand. And you might remember that you are trying to deal wi[illegible] other black people.

Think. Maybe you will. I have your word

about that? Too lovely.

When you find yourself in any trouble about how to deal with us, the black people of Newark, [illegible] like to ask some of us, the black people of Newark, and don't call in a white consultant from some big name school to deal with your problems.

We are pretty easy people to get along with when you treat us fairly. But when you don't, as I said before, watch out.

I love people. Sure. The same way you love people. You get what you want. I'll get what I want.

I think you are going to get a little bit of it now. Please don't get in the habit of taking people's homes away. It just doesn't work.

I wonder if brotherhood will get us anywhere in these hearings. I wonder if, perhaps, we won't make a little more progress if each member of the committee was present at each of the hearings every day, all day, so that you might hear exactly what was going on.

I [illegible] evening. I mean and he was not one of the speakers.

I'm happy I didn't have to stand before him tonight. I wonder if in the end, when you are answering a lot of questions, you might tell us exactly how the committee was chosen. If, perhaps, you might have done a better job by picking somebody who cared about whether or not people were moved from their homes and not just caring about a job.

One hundred and fifty acres for a medical school. Build homes. Build schools equipped with decent textbooks, visual aids. Not the books I turned in at the end of this year, ragged enough to sweep the floor with. Build homes where sunshine can come in.

If I'm on the first floor don't pile up 12 stories above me. Spread us out a little. We never did get that land that was promised a while back. We can't use that land for a school any more. Especially in Newark, perhaps you can give us a decent place to live and I'll try to -- what the Reverend said this morning. I'm not begging. Not in the least. You happen to be situated above me but I'm not begging. You should be.

Your neighbors didn't give my fore-

fathers any land, home rule. So we don't blame you for that. But continual deprivation wouldn't do, either. One hundred and fifty acres is an awful lot of land. We can use some nice government housing. One, two, perhaps, three stories high, where the children will be able to play comfortably.

Well, as one of my brothers said this morning, on grass and not cement. Go to schools where he can attend all day. Have the benefit of good teachers, paid a good salary. Have the benefit of supplies on hand when they are needed. Enrichment programs where they are needed. Yes, they are needed.

We'd love to make Newark a model city. Not one part of it. Not a model medical school or not a model complex of apartment buildings ten and twelve stories high.

A medical school. Rutgers, N.C.E., perhaps a city college. Homes for people and a place where people live. I stress that, gentlemen. People. People who live, who are happy and are sad.

At the moment they are extremely sad, especially those of us in the Central Ward.

THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry for the interruption, Miss Jordan. You have five minutes more for your presentation.

MISS JORDAN: I don't think these gentlemen would steal anything from me including my home.

THE CHAIRMAN: Pardon?

MISS JORDAN: I said, "including my home." I said, "I didn't think you would steal anything from me."

THE CHAIRMAN: You have five more minutes.

[illegible] You didn't hear what I said.

THE CHAIRMAN: I'm sorry. Please be courteous to the speaker. Miss Jordan.

MISS JORDAN: I said I didn't think that any of you, gentlemen, would steal anything from me, including my home. No, of course not. Then [illegible]. All right? Do I have your word? Do you hear this, gentlemen? He's giving me his word. He's not going to take my home. He told us something like that before. I'm not going to take your word for it. If you do find it absolutely necessary to move my family from its home, would you please build another and have [illegible]

men take our furniture out?

Would you do the same for the oth[illegible] families represented here? Would you act like you have some sense and realize that people can't be moved from their homes with no place to go?

Would you look alive? I sure hope you are taking down everything I'm saying. I want you to remember it. I gave the advice. I gave my testimony. I thank you very much for your time.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Miss Jordan.

The next speaker is Mr. Aubrey Jones.

MR. JONES: My name is Aubrey Jones. A-u-b-r-e-y. I reside at 285 Norfolk Street, Newark, New Jersey.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have 30 minutes, sir, for your presentation.

MR. J[illegible] I know. I know.

THE CHAIRMAN: Continue.

MR. JONES: To start off, may I ask if any of you, gentlemen up there, have ever come to the Central Ward to stay? When I first came here you had your experts to tell me and the black people [illegible] e that this area was bl[illegible].

You say that this area has rats, roaches. We have rats, roaches, venereal diseases and all other diseases.

You say you want 150 acres for the Med School. We say, "Well, no. We don't want it."

I'll start off with schooling. You want a medical school. Can we, the black people of the Central Ward, go to this medical school? Do you think that I or any member of my family can afford to go to a medical school?

Where the hell are you going to put us? Do you know that the houses in Newark, all of them -- yours, if you live in Newark -- have rats, roaches and what have you?

The schooling in Newark is very poor. I, myself, attend Central Evening High School. If you take people from the Central Ward and move them to another location, what about the schools there? They are already overcrowded. What are our children going to do? Go on triple sessions? Would you like that?

There is not a black person to represent the black community of the Central Ward. What the hell do you care about the people in the Central Ward? You don't live there. All you

1 know is that you have your experts to come in
2 for one day, two days, three days, at the most,
3 and tell us how we live.
4 We, the black community of the Central
5 Ward, we know how we live. We live like this
6 because you made it like this. You tell us that
7 we can have a public hearing on this medical
8 school., This is for the public but you're going
9 to give them that land no matter what the hell
10 we say, and if you do we'll get rid of you. We
11 don't care.
12 I say to every member on that Board and
13 my name is Aubrey Jones, again, and I reside at
14 285 Norfolk Street, that if you build a medical
15 school we'll burn it down and I'll be the first
16 one to light the match.
17 I live in that area and I'm not moving
18 for anyone. If you have money to use, why don't
19 you put it to a good purpose? Why don't you
20 give some of these black kids going to decent
21 schools where they don't have to go double
22 sessions, where every time something gets done
23 they are suspended. Why can't you take the
24 money and utilize it properly? Why do we always
25 have to suffer?

I see not a black face on that Board. You don't run Newark any more, brother. You're not my brother by no means. Newark is populated by more than 60 per cent of black people. It is time for you, you, you, you and anybody else and even the Mayor. You do what we want you to do. We gave you those jobs and we'll take them, if necessary.

You spend our money the way we want it spent; not the way you want it spent. I guarantee you there is not one of you on that Board who represents the City who have lived in the Central Ward for a period of one week or more. We know how our schools are. We know about disease. We know it is overcrowded. But what can we do? Move out of Newark? We don't move and you're not going to make us move. If you try, you'll have hell on your hands.

Oh, as far as disease go, you say that the Central Ward is highly populated with disease and what not. If you take one disease and move it to another area, what becomes of the disease? Do you demolish it? No. It spreads even more.

So if you think we are rats, dogs or anything else, you wish to call us, you're -

taken because if you move us to one place we'll start all over again and it will even get greater.

The black people of Newark; we have got ourselves together. We went down to that bag and I say to you, the people of the Board, get yourself together because if you don't want violence, hell, what have you, you, the people, you represent us. If we don't pay our taxes, you have no job. If we take our children out of school, you have no job. We're Newark. You're nothing. We just let you sit there because we were stupid and it's time to get ourselves together even more. You don't know what is going on, brother. We pay you. The money that you receive is our money.

How many people, whites, do you think live in the Central Ward? You can count them. You can spot them and you can smell them because they are dirty and that's on the record. They're dirty and I said it. And I'm not prejudiced. One color is just as good as the next.

But I say we don't need a medical school and everyone here says we don't need a medical school. We're here because we are concerned.

And so you say you want a school. We say we don't. If you wish to build a school, you're going to have to fight. You have your cops here now. You better give them a vacation so they can rest because they'll need every cop in the City to keep us under control and you're not going to, if you build the medical school.

We don't need the medical school. We can't afford to go to it and you say that you will build houses. Where? Do you know that since this medical school thing has been in effect, that the land owners that own other houses in other areas have raised the rents?

If they had a four-room apartment they've broken it down to a three and two-room apartment, a two and two-room apartment. Excuse me. Do you know what there is?

My mother went to find an apartment the other day. Do you know what the man told her? Four rooms. $125.

Where the hell are we going to get it from? We're not moving out of Newark. I've been in Newark all my life and I'm not moving for you or the next one. Four damn rooms. $125. You know what is going on. You aren't

that stupid. You want to pretend that you don't. You don't want us, the people, to think that you're interes[illegible] in us. But we don't want that. We don't want a medical school. We want houses. We want decent schools. We want everything that your children have and we are entitled to it. We are tired of what you are dishing out. We want decent things.

We have come a long way since we were brought from Africa. You brought us here but you can't take us back. No matter what you say we won't have a medical school and this I'm quite sure you are aware of.

Well, even if you are rubber stamping something that has already been signed, you build it. We'll tear it down. My sisters and brothers, they can't go to the medical school. Not that they don't have the intelligence. It is because we don't have the money.

Is your children going to this medical school? Of course. They have the money. They live in the suburbs. And if they don't have it, the grades, you pay so they'll get the grades. We don't want that. All we ask of you is decent homes, police protection which we have

plenty of here, I can see. We have plenty of that here.

I'm a taxpayer, if I'm not mistaken. When we get ready to walk down the street, we don't want to be scared. We want to go and come as you go and come on the suburbs.

There isn't a face on that Board that looks like they are interested in the black community. How do you think us black people that you are out for us? You are on that Board. You are supposed to be pulling and striving and what not for us, but you aren't.

Do you think you can run the City the way you want to? Well, you can't.

We have come together. We have united and we shall stay united. You have no more breaks. Whatever you do now you'll suffer for later. So if you want this medical school, tear down your house. Maybe your house. Why don't four of you build a house together and build a house together and then build a medical school?

Don't tell us about the rats, roaches, overcrowded house. We live there.

Your experts cannot come into the community

for a week or even less and tell us how we live. We know what's going on. And since you have the authority, we look to you to prevent it, but you don't.

You know it exists and you don't intend to do away with it because you think if you move us you're going to make another ghetto and when you make this ghetto you're going to have another damn hearing and you'll say that area is blighted again and you're going to move us again, and then you're going to continually say that the negroes only bring roaches, rats, and what not.

We know what we bring. We know what you bring. You know what you bring. We know. You can't move one ghetto to another place and expect it to work out later.

If you take the people from this ghetto and move them to another ghetto, you'll only start another ghetto and a bigger ghetto and you'll have more hell on your hands.

We're not moving for anyone on the Planning Board. You can tell it to Addonizio or any person you wish. We don't want a medical school, sir, and I'm not like my grandparents.

1 I don't yes, sir and yes, ma'am.

2 Your name is Joseph Cocuzza just like

3 mine is Aubrey Jones, so I'm together. I want

4 you to know this. We don't want a medical school.

5 We don't need a medical school. A medical school

6 cannot benefit us in no way whatsoever. No way

7 can benefit us, black men.

8 I can say if you want to take our homes

9 and build other homes and better schooling for

10 our children, but you're going to take our homes

11 where we live, where we pay our rent, and build

12 it for your children.

13 Well, you can take that to hell. We

14 won't have it. We don't want it. We don't need

15 it and we won't stand for it.

16 I know you are wondering why I keep going

17 over the fact that we don't want a medical

18 school. Doesn't seem to me that anyone on the

19 Board is taking it seriously enough to believe

20 that we will fight for what we want. We don't

21 want a medical school. Do you hear?

22 I advise every member on that Board to

23 get themselves together. Maybe you think you

24 are too holy. But just think young. Think

25 like the new generation is thinking. Your time

has played out. We are the new generation coming along and we won't take the shit, the torment and anything else that you wish to give us.

THE CHAIRMAN: Watch your language, sir.

MR. JONES: I shall.

THE CHAIRMAN: Or you will --

MR. JONES: We shall not take the stuff that our parents and grandparents and other parents have taken. So get yourselves together because we, the younger generation, are the future people of America.

You say we're free but we are not because if we're free why do we have to move? Why can't you build this medical school in the Weequahic area, the Vailsburg, and all the other areas that are in Newark?

You can't answer that? You can't answer it because you refuse to because -- why the hell don't you listen? I haven't seen but one person on that Board take down one note since I have been here, and that was Joseph J. Bradley. And I must comment on him on this because he seems as though he is the only one that is interested.

1 Do you know that the seats that you are
2 holding, the black people here should be holding
3 those seats. We live in the Central Ward. We
4 know what is best for the Central Ward and we
5 know what we want for the Central Ward. And we
6 don't want a medical school. We don't want it
7 and we won't have it. You build it. We'll burn
8 it down. You can go back to your records and see
9 that I said that I would be the first one to set
10 the match. I'll not only burn down the medical
11 school. I'll burn down your house, also, if neces-
12 sary, and before I let you build a medical school
13 where I live I'll burn it down. I'm not a violent
14 person. I have no police record. I'm a B-average
15 student and I have a very high intelligence.
16 That's why I'm here, because we're tired of the
17 stuff that you are pushing out.
18 We won't take it any longer. We don't
19 want it. We don't need it and we don't have it.
20 We want you, the Caucasian race, to know that
21 we're tired of your stuff. We won't take it
22 any longer. But if you build a medical school,
23 which I doubt that you are going to, no matter
24 who says what, and Addonizio can come here, we
25 don't want the medical school. You're not going

to rubber stamp this thing because we are not going to have it.

Do you think that I would move? I wouldn't move for you, for the Mayor or even for the President of the United States.

We gave him that job. You're not doing us any favors by moving us from our homes.

Where are you going to put us, first of all? Are you going to put us in the projects?

Well, it is a concentration camp. The elevators don't work so you walk up and down the stairs and have the feeling you'll be mugged or your pocketbook snatched. We know what is living in our area.

That is why we won't want to move. We know what lives in our area. We don't know what lives in the next. We can live. We can put up with the junkies, wineheads, whatever you want to call them. But we won't take what the other junkies, the new wineheads, the new thieves, the new anythings. We don't have them. We don't want them. Who wants to live in the projects? It is nothing but a ghetto. Who wants to live in private homes? The first thing they tell you before you see the apartment or they ask you,

rather, how many children do you have? My mother has six kids. There is only three left. Me, I'm 18. My brother, he is 14, and another sister 8. I have a brother 21, 27 and a sister 22. My mother has no babies. But the man told her that she had teenage children and he wouldn't take us because we're worse than the little ones. Where can we go?

The average family in the Central Ward has at least five children. Either they are on the State or they are getting some kind of aid to help their income. Sure the City says we'll give you the extra money to move, but if we ask them for the five, ten, maybe, $15 more to buy clothes for the children, you know what they tell us. It is not in the budget.

Well, we don't want the five, ten, fifteen, $20 extra to pay rent. If we wanted that, we would have it. But we don't. We want that money that they would take to pay you white men for us to live in your houses and do what you say, which we aren't going to do. We want them to give us that money for our children.

We don't want it because you say we should have it to give to you. You have taken eno

from us. Do you understand? You've taken enough from us.

We don't want you to take any more. You aren't going to take any more. You have the power to stop this medical school and I advise you to stop it. Build it some place where you have already torn down homes.

I noticed that on Fairmount Avenue that they're going to tear down there. They've torn down the lower part of West Market Street. Why can't you build your medical school there? They've torn down Washington Street. Why can't you build it there?

You've torn down just about in every area there is, but you aren't building anything. What do you want us to do? Move out of Newark? We're in Newark to stay, baby. We don't care what you say. We aren't going. I doubt if there is a person on that Board that lives in Newark. I don't care if it is the Weequahic section, Vailsburg, wherever you want to be. But all you know that you had your experts here the first night that this hearing was opened and they stated that our area was blighted.

Do you think that we are that dumb; that

1 we have vermin? Most of the adults in the area,
2 as a matter of fact, have no education but do you
3 think they have no intelligence to know what they
4 live in and how they live? We know how we live.
5 You don't know how we live.
6 All you know is you pay your experts to
7 come into the Central Ward and stand here and
8 tell us that it is not fit to live in. We know
9 this.
10 So if you want to use your money -- use
11 our money, may I state, to build a medical school,
12 I say take that money and tear down a block and
13 build a block for us, the black people, to live
14 in. We want schools. We're tired of going to
15 school and not doing anything. I've attended
16 board meetings, board of education meetings, and
17 if has been said that Newark has the worst school
18 system in the United States.
19 The kids don't know anything because they
20 don't have enough time. They don't have ample
21 time to learn anything. You tell them you come
22 to school a half a day. You stay home the other
23 half.
24 We want our children to go to school all
25 day. We want them to learn at the white level.

1 We want them to know everything your child
2 does. We want them to have everything that your
3 child has.
4 We're tired of giving them what they
5 need. We want to give them what they want.
6 And so we are going to do it. Your child probably
7 has to drag his bowling balls, basketballs,
8 horses and everything. We don't have that.
9 We can't afford it. But they'll get it because
10 we're going to take those jobs that you have
11 on that Board.
12 The next time I come here I hope to see
13 a black face up there. We want a black represen-
14 tative to sit up there and tell us what to do
15 with our land and how we should go about doing
16 it. We don't want you.
17 I don't know how we got you, but we don't
18 want you because you aren't doing us any good.
19 You're telling us to get out of our houses, to
20 move, so that the white kids from the suburbs
21 come in. And do you think -- do you think that
22 we're stupid enough to think that you would let
23 your children --
24 THE CHAIRMAN: You have five more minutes
25 for your presentation, Mr. Jones.

MR. JONES: I know. I can tell time. Do you think that we're stupid enough to think that you would let our children come to this medical school? If you build it and you won't and be surrounded by negroes, by black people? No, because you don't think that we have the intelligence to be in the environment with your children. We don't want it. We don't want your children here. We don't want your grandchildren here or their children. We don't want you, period.

Go back to where you came from. We're going to take over Newark. You better believe it. We don't want you here any more. Your time has played out. If you're 65, collect old age pension and give that chair to someone who deserves it. Give it to a black man who knows what is going on in the Central Ward.

There are but two young faces on that Board. There are but two. Half of you think backwards because you've reached that age where you don't know what to say. You, really, should be under psychiatric care because you're so dumb. You're simple. You're too old to realize what is going on. This is a new generation and we don't want that shit you are putting out. We

1 don't want it. We won't have it and we won't
2 stand for it.
3 If you build a medical school, believe
4 me, I'll burn it down and anyone that wishes to
5 follow me I'll even burn it down more. If you
6 tear down my house, I'll tear down yours. So
7 we'll compromise this thing. If you want to
8 tear down one of ours, we'll tear down one of
9 yours. You, you, you, you. You live next door
10 to each other. Buy a house and let us tell you
11 to tear down your house, to move for a medical
12 school.
13 What the hell do we need with a medical
14 school? Do you think I can go there and I'm a
15 B average student. No, because I can't afford it,
16 but you can afford it. Because you're old and
17 grey and you have played out. Give up those
18 seats to everyone on that Board because you don't
19 think young. You think you are back in the old
20 days.
21 Well, there are no more Toms left in the
22 Central Ward. No house niggers or anything else.
23 We're not bowing down any more and we're not
24 giving. We're taking. We want it, our say so.
25 If we say we don't want a medical scho ol,

we don't want it. We don't need it and we won't have it. So if you build it, if you take my house, I'll take yours. If necessary, I'll go to jail. And I have no record whatsoever, and you may look it up. Tear down my house. I live at 285 Norfolk Street. Tear down my house first. I'll guarantee I'll tear down yours next.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair declares a five-minute recess.

(Recess)

THE CHAIRMAN: The recess is ended. The next speaker will be the Reverend Sharper. Will Reverend Sharper please step forward. Reverend Sharper, you have 30 minutes for your presentation. Will you please give your name and address to the Stenographer.

REVEREND SHARPER: My name is Reverend Horace Sharper. I live at 39 Girard Place here in Newark.

Mr. Chairman and members of this part of our government. I'm here tonight because I find it mandatory. I'm a minister. I preside over a church with some thousand or 1,200 parishoners in

the heart of the Central Ward. We are struggling there in every way to serve these people.

I have been in Newark now some five or six years and I came here to serve them and to be faithful to their call to service.

I notice you have a young member advising you. I don't know how long he has been in Newark. I don't know where he came from. If he is employed in the City government, then he owes us his every bit of cooperation. If there is any bit of information that we need, he owes it to us.

I've been impressed that he seems to think his job is to maniupulate us and to use us and to advise you so that we would be further frustrated. I don't know what government he came from. I don't know where he plans to go. But if he's coming to join the democracy, then he should know, if he has a job he should be intelligent enough to know that it is his duty and every public servant to defend the rights of the people and not to be the lid on their tax moneys and to stir up or to promote confusion on their part in any way. If he's the man I think he is, he'll resign or do what I've just indicated.

1 It is high time that public servants know
2 their places. Then get into them and serve well
3 and move out. They want to work for private in-
4 terests. Then that's his privilege. But not
5 to come and to be a public servant and then to
6 add to our dilemma here in Newark.
7 But I want to apologize now for his even
8 being there because a negro should have that
9 place where he now sits or he will have some
10 rapport with us and could really give you the
11 kind of advice and counselling that you need.
12 The young man obviously never saw a negro
13 until the other day, for he wouldn't know nothing
14 about what we suffer or what we feel.
15 We can be as righteous as Jesus or St.
16 Paul or Savannah Roller. I'm sure you know who
17 I'm talking about. He wouldn't know anything about
18 it.
19 So, well, he kind of rubs me the wrong
20 way when he sits up there and looks at me like
21 this, as if I'm a criminal and he's some judge
22 and yet our tax moneys pays his living.
23 Son, you don't pay mine. Number one,
24 I'm so frustrated and disappointed because I
25 look at you, gentlemen, all of you.

Mr. McDowell, there, looks like he is president of the Chase Manhattan Bank. Mr. D'Alessio looks like a saint to me.

I feel that when I look at him that I could go to him and he would advise me as to what to do to defend the rights of the poor people of Newark.

Now, that is the way they look. This little gentleman, here, he just look like an upstart that just go t there yesterday. Totally confused and doesn't even know where he's going.

But if that were the case I wouldn't even have to be here because Mr. McDowell and Mr. D'Alessio would have called me on the phone. I would have gone and sat down in their homes and in their offices and they would have advised a minister who is determined to stand up for black people; not to defend them when they're wrong, but to give them leadership and articulation in righteousness and in civic improvement.

Now, gentlemen, if I could not come to you, well, I would hope that we are allies, as we live in Newark and as we work here. If we can't work together to help those who need us most, then something has happened to democracy.

I think you know it has. I'm not worried about that.

Now, last year -- a little earlier than this -- the National Council of Churches with headquarters at 475 Riverside Drive, over in New York City, through the Department for Social Justice began needling ministers in Newark for they have read about this fair city. They've been here and have investigated, made surveys. I think everybody has made surveys from Ford to his grandchildren. Everybody has made a survey about Newark and nobody has recommended anything to come to Newark like this young gentleman.

I kind of like him. That's why I keep referring to him. I will invite him to my home one day and, maybe, he'll sit down and talk. But nobody who has made a survey that studied Newark has given the government of Newark any praise for the mess that Newark is in.

Even the Ford Foundation, everybody wants to do something about Newark but the people who serve in public office, who administer the public trust. Industry wants to do something. The church wants to do something. I don't know about the Catholic Church, but I'm talking about

1 the Protestant Church, of which I am a member.

2 They needled us about a year ago and

3 told us that as ministers we should get up off

4 the stools of doing nothing and apply ourselves

5 to the task.

6 So, several of us got together, as the

7 entrusted pastors. We began meeting for we were

8 told then about a program called Demonstration

9 Cities at that time that Mr. Johnson had pro-

10 posed legislation and was asking that Congress

11 consider it, and we were asked to get busy so

12 as to give our people leadership in this area.

13 So that whenever this bill would be passed,

14 we'd be ready to participate. And so we join

15 forces as a negro ministerial group to get our-

16 selves thoroughly prepared.

17 We were prepared to cooperate in every

18 way with the City's administration as far as the

19 guidelines would permit us to do so.

20 So we proceeded to organize ourselves to

21 get ready to make proposals; that sort of thing,

22 so that we might work in this particular area.

23 Our intentions were to see to it that

24 this particular program would not be muffed and

25 fluffed and abused as the anti-poverty program had

1 been here in Newark.

2 So we wanted to be ready early. We
3 were conferenced and labored with Mr. Sternberg
4 and later with -- Sternlieb, I believe his name
5 is. Later with a Mr. Malafronte. Mr. Sternlieb
6 started out to confuse us and he did a pretty
7 fair job of it. We had a consultant, Mr. Herb
8 Wright of New York City that is very knowledg-
9 able, having served in many areas and being well
10 prepared and Mr. Wilbur Parker.

11 So we were not frustrated by Mr. Sternlieb
12 or Mr. Malafronte because we happen to know
13 what we want to do, how we want to do it and
14 the ways and methods of doing it. So we don't
15 want words. In our meetings -- and I presided
16 as chairman -- a resolution was passed by us en-
17 dorsing the Mayor's effort to bring to this
18 City the medical school.

19 However, we were totally ignorant of the
20 Mayor's intended methods of bringing that in-
21 stitution to this City. So I'm obligated to be
22 here tonight or sometime and to set the record
23 straight because I have the impression that I,
24 perhaps, am a minority from that particular
25 group because the rest of them has either gone

1 along with the Mayor or are silent.

2 So it is necessary that the person who

3 served as chairman come to you and to let you

4 know and to put it in the record that we had no

5 intention of going along with anything that

6 would tramp, walk hard nail boots across the

7 feelings or wishes or welfares of the people who

8 lived in the selected area.

9 We felt obligated to be here tonight if

10 for no other purpose than just for that; to set

11 that part of the record straight because we

12 realize some of these men are trying to say that

13 everything is all right and we, God forbid, that

14 I should let these hearings complete without

15 telling you that I disagree totally with the

16 methods being used.

17 Then I have noted that a lot of villifica-

18 tion has been pulled out on Mr. Louis Danzig.

19 I've heard them say that he has been lying and

20 guilty of gross mismanagement and malintent.

21 I want to set that record straight.

22 If this is true of Mr. Danzig, there are

23 other persons who must share that blame, such as

24 the men on the Housing Commission, Pettigrew,

25 Rosenberg and the Catholic Father who is on there,

1 Mr. Purcell and Mr. Stabile, and others who hap-
2 pen to serve on that particular Board of Com-
3 missioners.
4 I happen to know that the housing pro-
5 jects in Newark are the filthiest that I have
6 seen anywhere. Los Angeles, St. Louis, Chicago,
7 New York City, Boston, Stamford, Connecticut,
8 Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Georgia, Columbia,
9 South Carolina, Jacksonville, Florida, Tampa
10 and Miami. Wherever I've been, Newark takes
11 the cake in being filthy.
12 I can't see how the Federal Government
13 would go on allowing Mr. Danzig and this present
14 Board of Commissioners to not only administer
15 the affairs of the present housing setup but
16 how they would allow them to maintain them as
17 filthy as they are and how they would allow them
18 to build new projects because I'm sure as soon as
19 they are built they would also add to the super
20 and the colossal slums that now exist at the
21 public expense. I hope that's in the record,
22 too.
23 There are some things about the matter
24 of relocating the people in the Central Ward and
25 in this particular area. There are some things

that I've never heard of spoken of around here in Newark about the manner of urban renewal and relocation and that kind of thing.

I've been given the impression that the people have nothing to say about where they move and when; that only Mr. Danzig sits as a judge, a final say-so on that.

But I happen to know -- I have to go to Stamford, Connecticut -- I'm sorry. New Haven to hear men talking about and Mayor Lee and others speaking about Federal grants, the relocation of people from sub-standard to standard. Not from sub-standard to sub-standard. That if people are going to be moved, yes, they may be moved, but that housing are made available and are found and then the families are moved; that they are not uprooted and just kicked out and they are running all around looking for housing, as some of my members are doing tonight.

And I understand that landlords are asking them -- one of my members told me that she had been asked to pay one month's security plus one rent advance plus a second month's rent. I don't know what you call that. I call that a super advance.

1 Now, this is what she was told. So she
2 is at the mercy of not only Mr. Danzig but the
3 landlords to whom she must go to find a place
4 to live. No adequate arrangements have been
5 made for her. She is scrambling like a rat
6 run out of his lair.
7 I contend that urban renewal guidelines
8 do not permit this kind of shenanigans. And I
9 also want to remind all of you, including my
10 young friend, that all of you know better than
11 that. Mr. Danzig knows better than this and
12 all of the man including Mr. Pettigrew, the
13 man of my color, who isn't worth a dime being
14 on the Board; he's just up there along with the
15 others, where anything goes that Mr. Danzig
16 decides upon going.
17 Now, somebody ought to have some religion.
18 I even heard over there about 312 loan accounts,
19 115 accounts. I asked what is that? Well, a
20 home owner will be granted $1,500 to repair his
21 home.
22 I'm saying to you, gentlemen, that if
23 we want to know here in Newark what to do, the
24 information is available and I hope that not
25 only can we know but we already know that we are

1 violating all the basic rules and tenets of
2 urban renewal; that this whole thing is just
3 as backward as a cow with a tail in front and
4 a hand behind.
5 I contend that you know this, everyone
6 of you, and that this is -- there is no reason
7 for these hearings; that if we wanted to do what
8 was right we could have done it, but the whole
9 pattern is we run roughshod over the negroes,
10 trample them in the dust and do whatever in hell
11 we want to do right here in Newark, New Jersey.
12 Don't tell my parishoners that I was here
13 cursing. I'll tell them, as you know, myself.
14 The Mayor told me once that somebody came
15 and told him something I said from the pulpit.
16 I informed him the next time he wanted to know
17 what I said on that pulpit to call me; I would
18 tell him better than anybody else.
19 I'm here tonight to tell you that you
20 know better than this. I'm holding in my hand
21 a copy of the Guide Line of Model Cities. As I
22 read this I am appalled at the brass of your
23 sitting there looking so dignified as if you
24 want me to think that you think you're right when
25 you know, Mr. Cocuzza, and the rest of the gentle-

men, that everyone of you know good and well that you're lying, that this is not the right way to do it. And if you want to do it right, you just disband these hearings and go on and set it up and do it right and Reverend Sharper and all these people would have to go along with right doings.

I'm disappointed that you're making it so difficult just to do right. The whole matter of model cities and urban renewal gives in the forefront the privilege of a voice to all the element in the particular neighborhood or city where there is a particular in question and that is involved.

"Programs" -- I'm reading -- "should provide mechanisms for communication and meaningful dialogue between the citizens of the area and the demonstration agency. Voice should be given to all elements of the local population from all parts of the area."

I don't need to read this to you because you, gentlemen, got all this at home. You know, you have and you've read it. You know what it is.

"Existing neighborhood organizations which

1 have already established close ties with the
2 area population as well as new organizations
3 developed by grass roots organizational efforts
4 should be utilized."
5 Now, we've organized a corporation called
6 Tosault. You know about it. You've heard about
7 it. You have been told. Mr. Malafronte had
8 the brass to tell us that we do not even exist
9 where he's concerned, as if Model Citys' money
10 is in Mr. Malafronte's pocket.
11 The money does not belong to him. He's
12 just a Mayor's appointee. And if negroes will
13 vote right the next time, he won't be around
14 when the moneys will be spent.
15 The whole matter of housing. There should
16 be a choice in the matter. There should be
17 variety in the matter. A person being uprooted
18 should have the chance to select a standard
19 house of their choice. They not be just given
20 another set of rundown apartments in which to
21 move. Moving from a pile of mess to another
22 mess.
23 THE CHAIRMAN: Reverend Sharper, may I
24 interrupt you, please?
25 REVEREND SHARPER: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have five minutes more for your presentation and ten minutes, if you choose, for summation. Continue please.

A VOICE: Due to his standard in the community, I move that you consider giving Reverend Sharper more time, please. Give him all the time he wants because of his standing in the community. Mr. Chairman, would you consider it, please?

THE CHAIRMAN: Continue, Reverend Sharper, please.

REVEREND SHARPER: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: You're welcome.

REVEREND SHARPER: I'm representing Tosault tonight. Not only my church but Tosault which I happen to be the chairman. I've considered resigning from that because it is seemed I don't know anything else but to stand for what's right. I have no intention of delusion or compromising. Only right with right and right does not compromise right. Right only cooperates with right. This is all I know. This is all I have the sense and the fortitude to do, to speak the truth as I know it and as I see it, and to defend those who are too weak

to defend themselves and to call all men -- not only black ones -- but white ones, too, to what is right and what is peaceful. This is all I know to do.

So I've come to feel that I'm a wet blanket; that unless you are compromising and giving up all that is right and just kowtowing and knuckling and bowing and stooping and selling your people, you can't get a decent telephone call from anybody that is in the public trust.

Mind you, man, I'm not begging any of you to call me. I have too much to do. I have no time to fool with you but so much, anyhow. But I am saying this: that if a black minister is interested in lifting folk, that somebody is supposed to recognize that. And if you mean what is right, you will do it. If you are interested inpeople, you will do it.

The fact that you ignore more makes me know that you don't care about my people. Well, I do.

My contention is that Tosault was organized and there was a cross section of persons that make up the components of this group

from all walks of life. There are politicians, even Muslims are members and not invited to be members, but they live here, too.

Let me say a word about the Muslims. I thank God for them because the Catholic priests around here and a lot of our negro Baptist ministers right here are supposed to be my brethren. They will not stand up for the black public of this City like the black Muslims do. I thank God that someone stands up.

I want to apologize for the bad advice that Mayor Addonizio has received from the negro Baptist ministers as well as negro laymen of this Town. I believe Mr. Addonizio would have done a better job if black people had been prepared to call a spade a spade, but they told him what they knew he wanted to hear. Put all Italians in office, Mr. Addonizio, and even though the negroes -- everything is all right. When they knew they was lying, in the first place. Everything is not all right. Negroes are too matured right now. The old ones with grey hair, like me, to see. The young ones coming up here will show it to you.

Now, I want you to know this. I'm not

1 anywhere I go.

2 I go to Los Angeles. There is a mess

3 there. I come back home and I'm still frustrated

4 and dissatisfied.

5 I believe it was God would call a holy

6 dissatisfaction with you and with myself.

7 You and I have to share the blame for the

8 mess we now live in.

9 Gentlemen, you cannot go home desecrating

10 every altar that has been raised up by the

11 founding fathers. If you think you can, then

12 go to it. But when Reverend Sharper is dead,

13 truth will rise. When I'm sleeping peacefully

14 -- and I don't care when you put me in a cement

15 overcoat and drop me in the Raritan River.

16 I have several things now. I'm half sick and

17 half dead. So it don't matter whether I live

18 or die today or tomorrow. But truth -- and I

19 don't have a monopoly of it, and, bless your

20 soul, you can do it.

21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, too, Reverend.

22 The next speaker is Charlotte Greenberg.

23 Miss Greenberg, you have 30 minutes for

24 your presentation. Would you give your name

25 and address to the Stenographer, please?

MRS. GREENBERG: My name is Mrs. Gerald Greenberg. I live at 17 Porter Avenue in Newark.

For many years this City functioned without a master plan. When the master plan was finally issued by this august body large areas were marked for urban renewal. Large areas were earmarked for new roads. No provisions were made for the construction or maintenance of the schools in the City.

This sort of leads me to believe that the master plan which you presented in that nice green book had nothing to do with the master plan you really had in mind; the one that you are implementing so well now.

The plan that you are implementing today is designed to relieve the City government of almost all of its responsibility to the citizens.

As a matter of fact, it is designed to destroy neighborhood after neighborhood with a bulldozer, overcrowd adjacent areas, declare the area blighted bulldoze it around and around.

We've been here for 13 years and that is all we've seen in the City; crowded areas and the bulldozer once again.

1 If we believe this is the real plan and
2 I do it is easier to understand why the absence
3 of educational facilities was so prominent in
4 your first and primary plan.
5 After all, with a little bit of luck
6 the City can use urban renewal techniques to
7 reduce the number of children so overcrowding
8 will no longer be an issue and there won't be
9 anybody left to demand any proof from the system,
10 anyway, or the City services, which we have the
11 right to.
12 The street sweeping and tree trimming,
13 so on. The current brick and mortar project,
14 is just another part, I think, of your master
15 plan.
16 In the construction of low rent housing
17 in this City the tracts are, maybe, five to
18 twenty acres, at the most. Shopping centers are
19 not in the plan. Vast recreational areas so
20 necessary are not in the plan. Neighborhood
21 schools are seldom included. Beautification
22 and parks are out of the question. High rise
23 is the answer for housing as many people as
24 economically possible.
25 For the people who need beauty the most,

1 you provide the least.

2 For those students from middle class

3 homes, where they have beautiful surroundings,

4 I guarantee you would use every device to

5 beautify their surroundings.

6 What about a high-high-rise medical

7 school? The creation of an educational complex

8 of colleges is an admirable one.

9 God knows, the children of this City

10 need every possible advantage, but we know

11 that your plans, your broken down schools and

12 your lousy projects will not support a genera-

13 tion able to compete for higher education.

14 Your no-show maintenance of City housing

15 and no-show protection for these houses give

16 the kids who grow up there the chance of an

17 ice cube in hell to survive.

18 Everybody knows that political power is

19 the answer. We can see what it has done al-

20 ready. Who will teach in that medical school?

21 Not the Wilbur Parkers of this City, but the

22 Callahans.

23 I'm a personnel interviewer in a major

24 hospital in this City and you can't tell me

25 that any but the most limited jobs will be

available to this community.

The 10,000, 15,000, 20,000, 30,000-dollar jobs will go to highly qualified people who live outside this City.

The ads will read like ads I write every day. Just 35 minutes from New York City. You, gentlemen, should be ashamed of yourselves. You should be ashamed to sit here and ashamed to go home at night.

You let yourselves be used and used and used. Aren't you a disgrace?

I have a question for you, gentlemen. At this time the only plan for the area of the medical school and that is the total 150 acres is by contract summarily, total demolition for all of the structures, all of the schools operated by either the City or the County, all of the churches and every other institution in that plot without due process or DTL surveys for the sole purpose of conveying to the trustees of the New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry. This being the very extreme and factual decision known by everyone of you.

This Planning Board does not at this time or this year come in with any declaration of

1 blight. You are not obliged to act so as to
2 advance this large injustice.
3 Tell me, Mr. Chairman, will transcripts
4 of these proceedings be available? They are
5 valuable testimony whether or not the blight is
6 declared.
7 Can you tell us whether, in any event,
8 separate copies of these transcripts in full
9 will be made available to the Newark Human Rights
10 Commission, the New Jersey Division on Civil
11 Rights, the United States Commission on Civil
12 Rights or the United Community Corporation or,
13 at least, is there going to be one repository
14 where all of the agencies can get and have access
15 to all of the testimony in these proceedings?
16 I'd like an answer. I'll give you some of my
17 time.
18 THE CHAIRMAN: These proceedings, when
19 they are completed and evaluated, can be referred
20 to in the office of the Planning Board.
21 MRS. GREENBERG: In what way?
22 THE CHAIRMAN: By reading the contents
23 thereof.
24 MRS. GREENBERG: How? On microfilm?
25 Are they going to be transcribed into a paper

document? I see. What is available? Nine to five?

THE CHAIRMAN: Nine to four.

MRS. GREENBERG: Wouldn't it be advisable perhaps to put such an important proceeding in a public library files? The downtown public library has tremendous files.

THE CHAIRMAN: This will be a public document. So, therefore, the libraries, public and otherwise, will have copies.

MRS. GREENBERG: Will we be able to get copies of this?

THE CHAIRMAN: I didn't hear the question.

MRS. GREENBERG: Will we be able to get copies of this? It will be available to all of us?

THE CHAIRMAN: I believe there will be a charge for a copy. They can be observed in the Planning Board office.

MRS. GREENBERG: Tell me something. I'd like to know why when this Board is aware of the fact that the majority of the people in this City who are most articulate are working people, you choose to continue to hold hearings in the daytime?

THE CHAIRMAN: The hearings are held for the general public at times that are also convenient to them and the Planning Board members because they have to work for a living, just like all of you. All members are non-salaried. All citizens are not salaried.

MRS. GREENBERG: Tell me something about -- well, I have a statement I would like to make. When I was young, many years ago, I went to the nursing school at the Jersey City Medical Center. At that time it was a vast complex of buildings in excellent condition.

The care in those buildings was of questionable value to the clinic patient. The very reason that any of us might accept a medical school in the first place, on five or ten acres of ground, which I think would be adequate, is that it would then afford the City an excellent hospital with the best up to date facilities which would always be a credit because, of course, a school cannot maintain itself in a hospital that is not accredited.

For numerous reasons, I don't believe

that this hospital is going to be of any real advantage to the community. I feel that it is going to be a politically motivated hospital. I'm concerned about what kind of appointments are going to be made. As a matter of fact, City Hospital maintained itself for several years with a clerk running it.

I find it a matter of great concern to me that the Planning Board can offer to spend tremendous amounts of money and can be used by the political machinery of this City as a tool because, unfortunately, that is all you are, gentlemen. You really are not permitted a mind of your own any more than the Board of Education. I'm very sorry to say that because you are probably very bright men. You wouldn't see it again. You'd go back to private business where you work the rest of the time and we would never hear from you and you would be replaced by someone else just readily prepared to accept whatever is necessary to make it expedient for the City government to do what they want to do in this City.

I'm terribly disturbed at the fact that none of our young people or a very small percent-

age will ever see the inside of that medical school as students. They will never have the opportunity because by the time they are in third grade any thirst that they have for education has gleefully been murdered.

I'm as interested in higher education as any of the people in this room. I should like to see every child have at least two years of education past high school to prepare him for a job. I am sick of interviewing kids who graduate from South Side High School and can't even spell.

Do you know what a struggle it is for a kid to get through high school in this City? It is almost incredible. When he gets out he has a choice. He can be a dishwasher, a porter, a morgue attendant. The girls can slop trays for patients and scrub the floors. Work from seven in the morning to six-thirty at night.

It is incredible that a child should struggle and struggle for an education and not really get one and then come out prepared to do absolutely nothing.

I would like to see this City and this Planning Board declare areas for schools, areas

for housing, areas for playgrounds where children can have supervised park play, swimming pools, so the kids can stop opening the hydrants on the street. Places for kids to go in the evening. Recreational centers to be built so the junkies won't get at the kids.

You have a lot of work to do, gentlemen. I'm sorry you picked the last project instead of the first.

THE CHAIRMAN: You are out of order. Please sit down. Mr. Dworkin, please come to the mike. Mr. Dworkin, please come to the mike. Please come to the mike. Is Mr. Dworkin here?

THE SECRETARY: May I explain the confusion? We have received, today, earlier today, a written request to speak from two gentlemen. One is Mr. Walter Dawkins. One is Mr. Donald Dworkin.

We received the request from Mr. Dworkin ahead of the one from Mr. Dawkins. Unless Mr. Dworkin wants to be first, he has precedence. Mr. Dawkins, your name was called at 7:05, when the meeting started. You have 30 minutes. Give your name and address.

MR. DAWKINS: Walter Christopher Dawkins.

D-a-w-k-i-n-s.

I'm the executive director of the Blazer Work Training Program that is a work training program sponsored by the Federal Government through the Blazer Youth Council.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to say this, first: that you and the City of Newark and we are in one hell of a jam. Really, in one hell of a jam.

When I was here the first time I talked with Mr. Danzig and some of his experts on a little topic called Confrontation, Conflict and Change and, possibly, some of them didn't quite understand it. But we are in stage number two which is conflict. And this is a strange kind of conflict and it can be endless and it can ultimately destroy your plans for the medical college site or we can come to terms with the community, and that is my purpose, to speak here tonight.

One, to state short and simple that the City of Newark and its Planning Board is is one hell of a jam. We happen to know that if the blight hearings are not concluded at some point and this community is determined that it will not

be concluded, then you are in one hell of a jam.

So under the guise of conflict somewhere you, as a Planning Board, and we, as community people, must sit down and renegotiate what is going to be done. That's the short and simple of it.

You have not begun to negotiate because you've sat and listened to a community complaining and really getting mad and you've offered nothing but what you have already given, and you've perpetuated that by continuing to sign contracts and demolishing and demoralizing the whole area there.

Now, I'd like, first, to address you on what you have done in terms of legality, in terms of legality, to negotiate the contracting and the demolition of this area without your blight hearings being concluded with a determination that it is blight. This community could sue you for having torn down an area that may be determined unblighted. That is a part of what could come up.

All of this recalls more conflict and you, in the final analysis, will lose the medical college.

So I'm here tonight to discuss with you how you don't lose the medical college and the community doesn't lose the Central Ward.

I'm here tonight to propose to you a substitute proposal for the medical center that you have offered. I've come not only to offer a substitute proposal and a workable process but to explain the machinery, how it will be carried out by your community, in conjunction with you and giving you all the credit you want to do and the people getting what they want to do in the final analysis.

This will get you out of the one hell of a jam you are in.

Now, we are all ready to talk and walk together. Before I present to you the workable program I'd like to clarify one other thing that this Board and the newspapers have constantly printed wrong.

I told Danzig that night and his experts wouldn't refute what I said, so we must have been right as a community group. We said, number one, that to do anything in the medical college site would have a direct reflection on the outside community, and none of the experts

1 questioned it, and that's in the record.

2 We went on to say that as they tear

3 down and remove people from that area, they

4 congest the housing situation in the outside

5 areas. They overcrowd the already overcrowded

6 school. They create greater health problems.

7 They create greater crime problems. They

8 create a whole malady of diseases that come

9 about by overcrowding and removing people

10 without building houses.

11 Now, not one of Mr. Danzig's experts

12 refuted that statement. You call his experts

13 here. I took time to wait for them to answer.

14 The newspaper keeps reporting the blight

15 hearings and the people who speak are outside

16 of the area and not effected by the medical

17 college. A giant lie.

18 My children are already hung up in a

19 double session education program in the South

20 Ward. When you get through tearing down the

21 medical college site, I understand now that

22 my children and many other children will be

23 hung up in a triple sess ion education problem.

24 And so there is no doubt in the minds

25 of you and the housing authority and the urban

1 renewal people in Washington that the outside
2 folk are directly effected by what happens to
3 the people on the inside.
4 So I wish the newspapers would stop
5 printing that a bunch of outsiders are down
6 here talking about what is going to happen in
7 the medical school site and they don't have no
8 jurisdiction over it. We do have jurisdiction
9 over it.
10 I'd like to quote, basically, to you from
11 the Housing and Urban Development Manual about
12 how a blight hearing should be conducted, es-
13 pecially when it refers or has a direct relation-
14 ship to dealing with 15 per cent of the total
15 City of Newark, which is what you propose to
16 deal with in the medical college and Model Cities
17 and at some point in the game you are going to
18 make medical college a part of the Model Cities
19 project. I know that. So we are talking about
20 now what are the rules and regulations by which
21 blight hearings should be and must be conducted?
22 This hearing must not be conducted until
23 community people inside the area and outside
24 the area have voiced their opinions to its en-
25 tirety. So that means you ain't never going to

get a medical college over there. That is what it means.

There are in the City of Newark many groups that have been working to help this City in strange kinds of ways. So I'm talking to you about the workable program and the machinery by which to carry out the program, the way that machinery will be developed.

I'm going to take it slow and easy. We are saying from the community that there may be in the City of Newark existing at least 100 different organizations of one nature or the other. That range runs from the religious sect right on to the social and economic group and anti-poverty. That is not a part of the City administration structure.

We are saying that within the next ten days or less there will be sent to these groups a pledge indicating to them that there will be organized in the City of Newark a total Newark Housing and Urban Development agency sponsored by the basic community groups that exist in the City of Newark and all of those that exist in the Central Ward area, where you propose to build the medical college.

So we are talking about a total housing development corporation for the City of Newark sponsored by at least 100 independent agencies from religious to civic to social to economic. That is the machinery.

These groups in that pledge will agree that each one will give up some of his autonomy to the overall parent body that is to be funded by the Federal Government to help you build your medical college.

Now, that is really cooperation from the community. That is really cooperation. And if we get that, we're going to scare everybody in this City because it ain't never happened before.

When the pledges are presented and each organization head signs it, you then know Newark is ready to do business with you.

Now, I'd like to address the community for a moment. Our community must understand that with you as the Planning Board there is no question in the mind that what you propose to do in the medical college site is morally wrong; that to remove people is morally wrong.

I think if each one of you gentlemen were polled independently and behind a closed door,

where it would not come out, each one would say to yourself and the person asking you, "Yes, we know it's morally wrong. There is no question about that."

Next. You know socially and in a civic vein it is unsound and socially bad business for the Mayor or the government or the President or you to get money to do what you are doing in that fight in the central area. There is no question in your mind that it is both morally wrong, civicwise it is wrong and socially it is wrong. And, finally, from an economic standpoint, dollars and cents, and you all know dollars and cents.

From a dollar point of view it is economically unsound to move thousands of people from an already infected area with all kinds of maladies already, where people have created poverty and perpetuated it over a number of years, to root them up overnight and transplant them to without any social adjustment to make sure it is good. Social or moral.

You don't need a community group such as we to scream it. You know it already because at the Planning Board you, supposedly, had -- I question that. You supposedly have some of

1 the best minds working besides you and the
2 City of Newark and outside. They haven't proven
3 it. I said, "You are supposed to have."
4 So you check any educator in the City
5 of Newark and he'll tell you from an educational
6 point of view it wouldn't work. The schools
7 are already overcrowded. We've polled every
8 principal in the South Ward area. If you
9 start moving the folk, you'll destroy the
10 public school system we got.
11 As a matter of fact, your Board of Educa-
12 tion is right today looking for store fronts,
13 churches, any place they can to put in extra
14 classes.
15 Economically, it is unsound. There is
16 no question in your mind about that. Due to
17 the position you hold here, you are forced to
18 listen to the community. So again I would at
19 tempt to get you out of one hell of a jam by
20 not saying to you you're morally obligated,
21 socially obligated or economically obligated.
22 You are not. Because, incidentally, gentlemen,
23 your community has tackled the wrong problem.
24 They've tackled you. That's a part of the
25 problem. But I'd like to say to the audience

to effectively deal with these guys up here and the Board of Education and all these other folk you're going to have to conduct in this City the greatest voter registration drive that Newark has ever seen.

And then let me say to you what will happen after you present to the folk here, when it is just too bad that the law down at the Hall of Records won't allow you to set up a voter registration booth at the door and register everybody there, and at the end of the hearing and if they end and accept the substitute plan, at the end of it, if they have sat and listened to people complain and you present them with 200,000 signed voter registration slips and then say, "These are the people who are ready to move you from where you are if you won't change your ways."

I've already suggested to the community, for the better education that they sponsor this kind of effort. That every community organization join them and all get dollars out of the pockets to make it work and get people down to the Hall of Records and get them squared away.

I suggest that to already established

groups. So I'm going to go back out to the instrument by which we develop for Newark your medical college and a concept to get us all out of one hell of a jam.

We're talking about a federation of agencies that exist in the City of Newark all coming together, delegating some of their authority to a parent group, and it become a non-profit corporation for the City of Newark to do one thing; to develop in this City, in conjunction with you, what they can possibly call a physio-renewal system. Follow that word. We are not talking about housing no more because that is one of the problems. We ain't talking about education no more. That is another one of the problems but behind employment, health and all the other problems they have to tackle, the whole system. One shot. And they start by registering to vote until whatever number exist in the non-white community.

Now, we are talking about a community non-profit development corporation that will have as an ultimate intent the development of the physio-renewal system.

I'm going to break that down so we all

1 know what we are talking about and I am work-
2 ing on that plan. Part of the material I have
3 here. I propose to bring it to conclude these
4 hearings over days and days. Get you more
5 material. Until we will have a model city's
6 proposal and this other thing. We're saying
7 with the physio-renewal system, number one, we
8 are going to renew the physical conditions of
9 the City of Newark. We are going to get millions
10 of Federal dollars to get it and part of the
11 medical college money because you ain't going
12 to get no medical college unless you split it
13 with the people.
14 We are saying that the non-profit corpora-
15 tion, once it is formed, sponsored by the
16 federation of agencies in the City of Newark,
17 will spin off a host, a host of subsidiary
18 groups, and among those groups will be a hous-
19 ing management and building corporation made
20 up of local folk who will re-evaluate what
21 you propose to do in the medical college and
22 then discuss with you, number one, what you
23 should do under the housing problem that exists
24 over there.
25 I may get in a hassle with the community

on this because they say you don't need no medical college. I say you ought to set it down in the meadowlands.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dawkins, you have five more minutes and you have ten minutes for summation.

MRS. GREENBERG: Since I didn't use all of my time, I would like to give it to Mr. Dawkins.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dawkins has his own time.

Mr. Dawkins, take the mike, please.

A VOICE: I'd like to relinquish my name. I haven't spoken. My name has been in since the first day.

THE CHAIRMAN: We are very sorry. Each person will speak for himself and herself. Mr. Dawkins, please take the mike. You have five minutes more plus ten minutes for summation.

MR. DAWKINS: I have five minutes more and ten minutes for summation? Fifteen minutes? Very good.

We are now talking about moral issues. We are talking about dollars and cents. We are saying a non-profit corporation will be

developed and will be submitted to the State to get registered and chartered to do business with the State in that area and Newark.

We are saying they will spin off a host of subsidiary agencies that will work for the parent group. One will be a housing and re-development corporation to re-evaluate the medical college site. And we're going to say to you now, Mr. Chairman, like we began saying earlier, like we're going to say when we send into Washington a substitute proposal for the medical college and model cities that if you do not accept 50 acres and no more we will protest any college in the City of Newark as long as anybody has the idea. You're lucky to get that.

Let me move on. I want to present to you, so you won't say later somebody did you the way this Planning Board seems to be doing to the community. They will submit a program to re-develop the entire medical college site and housing. Either condiminium or cooperative to be decided upon by this community corporation with 50 acres left aside for the Planning Board to use as it so chooses and then to protest to

1 the Federal Government and to the Governor that
2 if he participates in 150 acre medical college
3 he is a participant in all that goes on in the
4 removal of non-whites from the community. That's
5 all I'm saying.
6 My intent was to get you out of one hell
7 of a jam.
8 THE CHAIRMAN: Continue, please.
9 MR. DAWKINS: We are saying that some
10 of the community might be ready to compromise
11 if this Planning Board is ready to change its
12 ways. If not, then nobody will do nothing but
13 have more conflict and somewhere a different
14 kind of change will come about. It will come
15 about like gentlemen-like agreement or it may
16 come about with the City collapsing on every-
17 body's ears. Nobody wants that. I'd like to
18 demonstrate to you, here, with the few minutes
19 that I have that this community can begin the
20 process I was talking to you about. Not only
21 will it spin off a housing development corpora
22 tion made up of local buildings and other folk,
23 but it will spin off a host of other agencies
24 to handle specific problems in education.
25 I mean from the cradle to the grave in education.

From day care to senior citizens. And you can reach to the senior citizens, if you want to get out of a jam.

We are talking about the unemployed guy who has no market skills to the employed fellow to upgrade everyone to community design work training programs.

We are talking of health and welfare through out-patient clinics where the community designs them to meet the needs of narcotics, youngsters who need dental work, psychological work. This is what you will undertake.

Let me show you how they go about beginning to prove how they can do the job.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dawkins, can you leave those for evidence or any other --

MR. DAWKINS: No, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: In your proposed program --

MR. DAWKINS: We'll get you copies.

THE CHAIRMAN: Leave that for evidence?

MR. DAWKINS: Yes. Here's what we are saying and we're saying it short and simple.

If this Planning Board gets together with the community, it is possible to get the business community to donate thousands of dollars

to this kind of development corporation to save money on the medical college site.

If you want to work together, here we have a picture of what that area -- some of it -- looks like. That was done by a photographer at no cost to the Blazer Council.

These are some of a hundred pictures of different areas of Newark. This is a building that now stands vacant for over five years in Newark. That could be rehabilitated by the community.

I wanted you and the audience to see it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Will you state the location?

MR. DAWKINS: I'd rather not name the location. You have other kinds of problems. Everybody keeps the stuff behind them. This building is now to be purchased by the City for demolition. That is one of the reasons I wouldn't say where the building is.

When we present the whole program you'll get an idea. There are other buildings that have been turned over to the Council for rehabilitation where your Planning Board wants to buy the buildings to tear down. This is

1 made of brick. It has been proved by archi-
2 tects as sound and desirable for rehabilitation.
3 To tear it down will be impractical and
4 costly when it can be rehabilitated for other
5 kinds of housing in that area, other kind of
6 anything. This is but one.
7 Again, I'd like to point out that this
8 work had been done. You know these pictures
9 could be worth, easily, 50 or $60 apiece.
10 They were originally taken and blown up
11 and blown up at no cost. We could make one as
12 big as this wall at no cost. So the community
13 is ready to help you get out of this jam.
14 I'd like to point out to you another
15 building, series of buildings, that are right on
16 Bergen Street, that somebody is proposing to
17 tear down. That is sound enough to rebuild
18 and rehabilitate. The community will rehabilitate
19 them. The community will purchase them. The
20 community will operate them and keep them in
21 first class shape and not become ghettos where
22 the community has a voice. I'd like to show
23 you that picture as one of the shots. I'd like
24 to show you a different angle from this area.
25 These are buildings that they are proposing to

tear down that could be rehabilitated by a community housing redevelopment corporation and saved in that area and save moneys for houses of people that would relieve the overcrowded condition.

This is one kind of project that I brought. We've got architects who have laid plans for redesigning some of the blocks. I'll show you one final draft on that.

You notice, these are structures that normally would come under, I guess, high-rise. But if they are handled right, the faces change, land areas around them change. Rehabilitated inside. They can become some of the most beautiful buildings we've ever seen with a minimum of cost rehabilitation or recreation.

I'd like all of you to take a look at this. These buildings are standing all over the City, yet somebody plans to call in New York architects to start tearing them down and New York architects to start digging up the land. And when the community gets through watching New York will have made the money for tearing them down. New York will have made the money for digging the ditches to build them in.

New York will have made the money for raising them up in the air and will have made the money for everything that this community should be making the money and then should be employed and learning the trades to do it themselves.

We are talking about self-help with Federal money and building your medical college. You say maybe it won't work. You might say to yourselves: I'll show you a building right now that is a fantastic example of what a community can do, if the Planning Board and City comes to grips with what the City wants."

In the City of Newark on 21 Johnson Avenue is a dilapidated building like that. Then I'm being kind. I'm not talking about the violation of the health codes and all that stuff and the non-enforcement of housing codes. I'm not talking about that.

I'm saying people can do with the help of your Board at 21 Johnson Avenue there is a dilapidated building that has been run down for four years, where the people refused to pay the rent, where the landlords could not get the building condemned; where you could not collect the rent and a threat of burning it down just

existed from day to day.

We went to the landlord and said, "If you let us use your rent for X number of months, we'll get community carpenters, plumbers, this that and the other. Go in your building with your rent money and straighten it out."

They said, "This sounds crazy but we'll try it. At the rate we're going, we can't collect the rent. If we go in there too much ourselves, the people may throw us out and do something bad."

We agreed the most practical way was for the community group to take control of the building for X number of months, take the rent and rehabilitate the building. We called it Project New Work. This is what it looks like. This is the building and the way it looked at 21 Johnson Avenue.

Let me show you. This is the building at 21 Johnson Avenue that we've begun what we call a physio-human renewal system. This is what it involves. We started inside so the tenants can now get some benefit from the building with the rent they were paying to somebody else. We started rehabilitating with

the rent one apartment. We dropped the ceilings. Put up new walls, new plumbing, new wiring and put in new kitchen sinks.

We got one man in the City of Newark to donate $1,500 with furniture to set up a model apartment. Committed already. We then went to discuss with Trenton the development of housing rehabilitation demonstration grant of about $400,000. They will be talking with us about this.

Now you say, "How do you get the community together?"

Leo Bernstein, a councilman with whom I fought for years because he wasn't doing us right, had to come down and say, "Yes, I approve this program."

We got a host of people from other areas and the City to say, "Yes, we'll approve this type of project."

We're saying, "Expand this project 21 into a medical college site, sir. You could get your 50 acres. You could provide housing and you could get millions of dollars and put Newark out as the number one City in the country with this type of process.

When I say physio-human renewal, recreating the apartments, wiring and plumbing was one part of the physio-renewal, but for the people we've designed this, that every pre-school child in this building would go in the pre-school council or the one we ran and they are now in there at no cost to the parents.

Number two, all the parents are now registering for work training coming up in the concentrated employment program. So they'll work. We say to the State Department if they give us the money to buy the building, the tenants will pay the rent to the mortgage and eventually earn their own apartment. That is how simple it is.

We said, finally, for the child who cannot go into pre-school, we'll put him in a day care and through the concentrated employment program we'll build the day care program. When the parents go to work, the children go to pre-school. People go to employment. They have got housing and own their own property and suddenly you are out of one hell of a jam.

THE CHAIRMAN: Two minutes for summation. Just a minute. Commissioner Bradley.

from the heart of an artist who is walking on the street now.

This is the concept of an artist who said, "What will I do with a block if we had a chance to tear it and take everything out of it and start from scratch?"

The first thing he wanted to see was flowers, bushes and trees and all that. Next, if it were a condiminium or high-rise what would it look like?

And this is what it would look like. I'd like to show it to the community first and then we'll show it to you.

This is a plan for the community to do with any one block if they were going to build a high-rise apartment for the poor or whether he'll build a condiminium.

It gives you an artist concept of the floral surrounding of the apartment. If it is an apartment house or condiminium, it would still have a basic concept.

We have plans of this. Land area. Square foot. The cost of the building. Material, equipment involved, and the contractors who could do the work, if they were

given a chance.

I'd like just the community to know that this kind of thing -- this, here, costs money.

In concluding, sir, I'd like to say this:

That Newark is prepared to step forward if you are prepared to be gracious, gentlemen, and put this City at the front of all the cities in the country or we can all keep coming down here for the blight hearings.

Thank you very much.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dawkins, could you leave some of that here?

MR. DAWKINS: Yes. I'll leave you a couple of pictures.

THE SECRETARY: As long as the hearing is continued, the record is always open. If you do not care to submit the written material, you can --

MR. DAWKINS: We will be meeting to get it to you.

THE CHAIRMAN: The hearing is now adjourned until 10 a.m. Thursday, June 29, 1967, here in the council chambers.

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I, STANLEY B. RIZMAN, Certified Shorthand Reporter, do hereby certify the foregoing.

STANLEY B. RIZMAN
Certified Shorthand Reporter

Dated: 7/7/67